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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

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REFERENCES

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1. The Prague-Kbely Airfield is 2.3 kilometers northeast of the Prague suburb of Vysocany and is on the south side of the asphalt highway from Prague to Kbely. However, a part of the airfield's installations is on the north side of the highway. The latter area is about 150 by 250 meters in size.
2. The field extends about 2,200 meters from west to east and about 1.5 kilometers from north to south. A concrete runway 2,000 meters long and 40 or 50 meters wide runs east and west.
3. The field is completely flat, and in normal weather it is always dry and in good condition. The drainage system is good, and it is possible for aircraft to take off and land at any season of the year, even using the grass instead of the runway.
4. The concrete aprons and taxiways are connected with the runway. There are also two unsurfaced aprons (No. 4 on the sketch) next to the concrete aprons, and a large number of aircraft are always parked on them. These aprons are marked off with wooden markers. A 12-meter-high tower belonging to the Flight Control Section (Flugleitung) and having a round glassed-in observation room is located near the eastern apron.
5. The airfield and the installations lying north of the highway are enclosed by wooden fences with several strands of barbed wire. There are four entrances to the airfield. The main entrance is directly opposite the barracks installations on the north side of the highway. Near the main entrance the main guard of the airfield, consisting of an officer and 22 men, is located. The guards are armed with sub-machine guns. The two other entrances to the west of the main entrance have guard shacks. The fourth entrance, to the east of the main entrance, has a guard room in the wooden barracks building.

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6. The following troop units and offices of the Czech Air Force are located on the Prague-Kbely field:
 - a. Air Base I (Luftbasis I), commanded by Colonel Sklenar; strength is about 180 men, including officers; the EM wear blue shoulderboards; this unit has two sections:
 - (1) Technical section, with about 80 men and including the following: photography section, armorers platoon, drivers section, communications section and paymasters section.
 - (2) Auxiliary detachment, with about 80 guards who also are used in maintenance of the field.
 - b. Atlantic Flight Regiment (Atlanticky pulk) No. 25, commanded by Major Mykal; with about 80 men who wear blue shoulderboards and are quartered in a barracks (No. 45a on the sketch); the staff is located in a wooden building (No. 21 on the sketch).
 - c. Fighter Regiment (Zvolensky pulk), with about 70 men, 20 Me-109s and 12 Siebel aircraft (hangar, No. 17 on the sketch; personnel quartered in Building No. 45c on the sketch).
 - d. Air Transport Regiment (Letecki dopravní pulk), with about 100 men, consisting of three squadrons (Staffel) with about 30 aircraft in all, including 6 Ju-52s, 12 Siebels, 5 Dakotas, 4 Storchs, some Aeros, and others. (hangar, No. 13; garages, Nos. 28 and 29; and quarters, no. 38 on the sketch).
 - e. Independent (selbststaendig) Training Detachment, with about 20 old, light aircraft, including 3 Me-109s, 3 Zlin 20s, 4 Bueckers and 4 Arados; transition training for pilots; commander, Captain Zubr, a Slovak.
 - f. Meteorology Training School (Skola povetnostni sluzby), commanded by Staff Captain Vencel Cejka; (personnel are quartered in Building No. 51 on the sketch). This school as a unit was located at Kbely only until 1950, when the main part of it was moved to Prostějov because of a lack of space at Kbely. The staff and the Special Section of the school remained at Kbely, consisting of the following divisions:
 - (1) Aerologische Zentrale (high altitude research, Radiosondieren)..
 - (2) Storehouse for materials.
 - (3) Transportation platoon.
 - (4) Auxiliary detachment, which includes all the school personnel remaining at Kbely.
 - g. Meteorological Center, under the command of Staff Captain Jan Huba.
 - h. Air Service (Luftdienst), under the command of Staff Captain Lang. About 30 men belong to this unit, as well as 30 female employees (living in Barracks Nos. 50 and 52 on the sketch).
 - i. Air Signal Service (Hlasna sluzba), under the command of a colonel (nu). The training installation for the air signal service for the border area is located here. The personnel wear black shoulderboards with blue borders.
 - j. Air Force Storehouse No. I (Leteckí sklad I), commanded by Major Alois Šnasek. The warehouse has weapons and workshops.

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Legend to Sketch of Prague-Kbely Airfield

1. Runway.
2. Apron.
3. Taxiway.
4. Unsurfaced aprons.
5. Control tower.
6. Main entrance.
7. Main guard for the field.
8. Entrances.
- 8a. Entrance.
9. Guard shacks.
- 9a. Guard room in barracks.
10. Hangar, 40 by 15 by 7 meters in size, steel construction with an Eternit roof.
11. Hangar for small aircraft repairs; 35 by 20 by 10 meters in size; steel construction, with a black, arched roof.
12. Similar to Hangar No. 11; used for parking aircraft which have been repaired.
13. Five hangars, 40 by 20 meters in size; steel construction, with black, arched roofs; used as hangars by the Air Transport Regiment.
14. Hangar housing several small aircraft; about 30 by 15 meters in size; corrugated roof; used by the Practice Detachment (Uebungsstaffel); Air Force officers who are not assigned to a unit have to do their compulsory flight practice with this unit.
15. Hangar used by the Practice Detachment.
16. Hangar built in 1951; about 40 by 25 meters in size; concrete and steel construction, with a flat roof.
17. Old double hangar, about 80 by 30 meters in size, with a corrugated metal roof; the aircraft of the fighter regiment are kept here.
18. Old wooden hangar, about 25 by 20 meters in size, with a black tar paper roof; used by the Practice Detachment.
19. Engine testing building, a plain brick, one-story structure; airplane engines are tested here before being installed.
20. One-story plain brick building about 30 meters long; small repair jobs are done in this workshop.
21. Wooden barracks located between Hangars Nos. 16 and 17; the staff of the so-called Atlantic Flight Regiment.
22. and 23. Buildings of a former farming estate; now used for storage of equipment.
24. Underground fuel dump of the airfield. On the surface there is only a stone hut 5 by 5 meters in size, with a pump which is always guarded by a sentry. Capacity of the dump is unknown.

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25. Boiler house for the heating plant, with a chimney 10 meters high.
26. Weapons storehouse, which even contains small amounts of ammunition for infantry small arms.
27. Weapons workshop which does repairs to weapons and tools for the airfield.
28. and 29. Garages of the transportation platoon of the Air Transport Regiment.
30. Canteen for the civilian employees of the airfield.
31. Airfield movie house.
32. Filling station (Pump-Station).
33. Ruins of two former wooden hangars; not in use.
34. A former hangar, corrugated metal; used as a garage by the transportation platoon of the Meteorological Center; three automobiles and three trucks are kept here.
35. Three garages of the transportation section of the airfield; 15 trucks and three automobiles are kept here.
36. Office building.
37. Blinker tower (Blinkturm), 10 meters high, with a revolving cupola (Kuppel) which sends light beams in four directions; the light signal is turned on when flying is being done.
38. Two wooden barracks housing about 100 men of the Air Transport Regiment.
39. Boiler house of the heating plant, with a chimney 8 meters high.
40. Carpenter's workshop, wooden barracks.
41. Workshop for repairing radio apparatus and precision apparatus for aircraft; one-story building.
42. Six houses; officers' living quarters.
43. Entrance to area north of the highway.
44. Building of the central heating plant.
- 45a. Barracks of the Atlantic Flight Regiment.
- 45b. Staff building.
- 45c. Barracks of the fighter regiment.
- 45d. Barracks for personnel of the airfield.
- 45e. Quarters for miscellaneous personnel.
- 45f. Barracks for personnel of the Meteorological Center.
46. Guardhouse with cells.
47. Dispensary.
48. Sport field.

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49. Quarters for unmarried officers; one story.
50. Quarters for female personnel.
51. Wooden barracks of the Meteorological Center.
52. Building (Dienstgebäude) of the Air Service.
53. Three warehouses for various kinds of material, including oxygen for meteorological balloons.
54. Entrance to the area north of the highway lying farthest to the east; this area is about 140 by 120 meters in size.
55. Guardhouse.
56. Three connected wooden barracks for storing various parts.
57. Wooden hangar, about 80 meters long; storage of weapons and weapons workshop.
58. and 59. Warehouses for aircraft parts and repair equipment; both about 60 by 10 meters in size.
60. Offices of the transportation service command (Fahrdienstleitung) of the airfield.
61. Wooden garages.
62. Wooden hangar; storehouse for old material.
63. Covered firing range for test firing of weapons which have been repaired.

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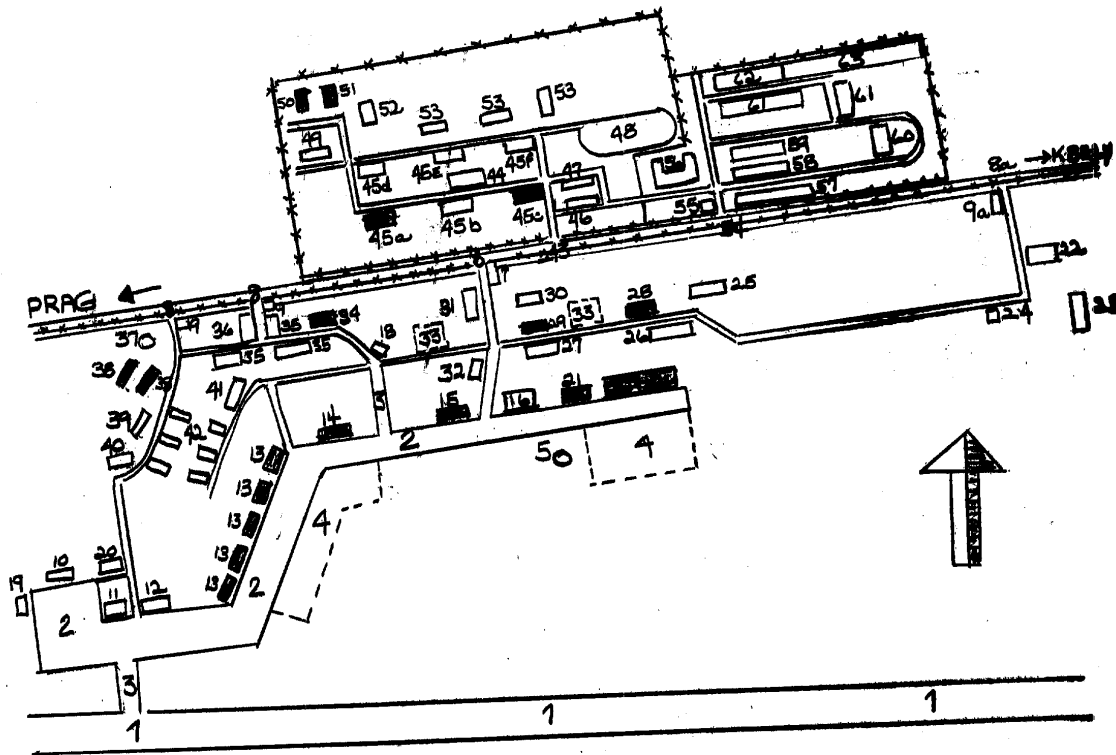
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SKETCH of PRAGUE-KBELY AIRFIELD



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